

## **ACC Ottawa PUB NIGHT - A Beginner's Guide**

Respectfully and Irreverently Submitted by Darrel Newman

It has been said that the ACC is a “drinking club with a climbing or hiking problem”. This is not really the case for the Ottawa Section - there's lots of climbing and hiking ... along with some drinking. AA and MADD would be proud of us - but this shouldn't be the reason to miss out on meeting some great people and some great socializing.

Are you afraid to attend our Pub Night? Afraid that you won't know anyone? Well ... don't worry! Here are some clues to identify us:

- Check the foot gear! If you see hiking and climbing boots - that's got to be us.
- Check for MEC, HH or Sierra logos on the clothing. That's likely to be us. And, if not, you should join that group for a beer anyway - they must be pretty cool to dress like that.
- Look for some ratty beards. A dead give-away.
- Check for colourful maps or outdoor pictures all over the table - you're getting warmer.
- Lots of arm waving and animations that look like climbing holds could be another clue.
- Hooting out loud and lots of raucous laughter means that someone has just told another one of those 'groaner' jokes.

Why you should attend one of our Thursday night sessions:

- An opportunity to meet with outdoor enthusiasts in an indoor setting with comfy seats and good beer
- No chance of getting frostbite or sunstroke on these outings
- Very little chance of spraining your ankle, skinning your knees or breaking any bones ... unless you do that on the way out of the pub. That, then, is a whole other movie.
- 50 pounds of gear is not required
- We can all aspire to be better at pub activities than any of those extreme mountain women and men
- Food is good
- You can fib, exaggerate and add some not-so-correct details to your adventure stories. No record is kept and you always can deny it all later
- “And there I was at 10,000 feet hanging on by my fingernails with a 65 pound pack on my back” is a great way to start a 'tale'. No need to explain that you hadn't left the helicopter yet